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CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS,

AND

Rules of Order

OF THE

REFORM ASSOCIATION

OF THE

CITY OF MONTREAL.

Adopted 17th December, 1874.

BIBLIOTHEQUE
SAINT-GEORGES

MONTREAL :

PENNY, WILSON & CO., PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS,
155 & 157 St. JAMES STREET.

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1875.

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Reform Association of the City of Montreal.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I.—NAME.

This Association shall be known as "The Reform Association of the City of Montreal."

Article II.—OBJECT.

The object of the Association shall be the advocacy and support of liberal political principles, the bringing out and promoting the election of Candidates, the calling of Conventions when deemed necessary, the publication and distribution of campaign and other documents, the scrutiny and revision of voters' lists, the enrolment of new members, and united action with similar Associations when considered advisable.

Article III.—MEMBERSHIP.

Any two members may propose a person for membership by giving his name and address in writing to the Secretaries, who shall post up in a conspicuous place in the rooms of the Association the name and address of the candidate and the names of his proposers. The Executive Committee shall determine his admission by ballot, a two-thirds vote of the members present being necessary to his election; but no person shall be balloted for unless his name has been posted at least eight days before the election. If accepted, he shall become a member on paying the admission fee and signing the Constitution and By-laws.

Article IV.—OFFICERS.

The Officers of the Association shall be a President, nine Vice-Presidents, two Secretaries and a Treasurer, who, together with twenty-one other members, shall form the Executive Committee of the Association.

Article V.—DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SEC. I.—It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all public and private meetings of the Association; to enforce a due observance of the Constitution, By-laws and Rules of Order; to announce the result of all balloting, or other votes; to call Special Meetings, as provided in the By-laws; and to exercise a general care and superintendence over the affairs of the Association. He shall not vote unless there be a tie, when he shall have the casting vote; and he shall be *ex officio* a member of all standing Committees.

SEC. II.—In the absence of the President one of the Vice-Presidents, or in their absence a Chairman, chosen by the meeting, shall preside and perform the duties of that officer.

SEC. III.—It shall be the duty of the Secretaries to keep minutes of all meetings; to notify members of their election; to keep a list of members, with their residences; to issue circulars or notices when required; to conduct the correspondence of the Association. They shall be *ex officio* members of all standing Committees.

SEC. IV.—It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all moneys belonging to the Association; to keep a written account of all receipts and expenditure; to pay no sum without the sanction of the Executive Committee; and to submit a financial statement at the Annual Meeting. He shall be *ex officio* a member of all standing Committees.

SEC. V.—It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to report all matters upon which the action of the Association may be particularly required; to recommend to the Association subjects for discussion, and the occasions for holding public meetings, and generally to employ such active measures for carrying out the objects of the Association as they may deem advisable.

SEC. VI.—The Executive Committee shall have power to appoint delegates to the Board of Directors of the Reform Association of the *Parti National*.

Article VI.—ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

SEC. I.—The Officers of this Association and the Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected annually by the members at the General Meeting of the Association, on the first Thursday in December.

SEC. II.—All elections shall be by ballot.

SEC. III.—The Executive Committee shall fill up all vacancies occurring in their number during the year.

*Article VII.—REMOVAL, SUSPENSION, OR
EXPULSION.*

Any officer may be removed, or any member may be suspended or expelled, by a three-fourths vote at a regular meeting, or at a special meeting called for the purpose; but no such motion shall be made unless notice thereof in writing has been given the accused through the Post Office, and posted in the Rooms of the Association at least three days before the meeting.

Article VIII.—AMENDMENTS.

No alteration, amendment or addition shall be made to this Constitution, except by a two-thirds vote of the members present at the Annual Meeting, or at a Special Meeting called for the purpose, and after ten days' previous notice thereof in writing.

BY-LAWS.

Article I.—MEETINGS.

SEC. I.—Regular Meetings of the Association shall be held on the first Thursday of every month, for the promotion of its objects and the transaction of business.

SEC. II.—Special Meetings shall be called by the President at the request of ten members.

SEC. III.—Fifteen members shall constitute a quorum or the transaction of business.

Article II.—ORDER OF BUSINESS.

The following shall be the order of business at regular meetings :

- 1.—Call to Order.
- 2.—Reading of Minutes.
- 3.—Communications.
- 4.—Propositions for Membership.
- 5.—Reports of Officers.
- 6.—Reports of Committees.
- 7.—Notices of Motion.
- 8.—Unfinished Business.
- 9.—New Business.
- 10.—Adjournment.

Article III.—RULES OF ORDER.

SEC. I.—No motion shall be open for consideration until moved and seconded, committed to writing, and stated from the Chair.

SEC. II.—When a question is before the Association, no motion shall be received except to adjourn, to lay on the table, the previous question, to postpone, to refer, or to amend.

SEC. III.—While an amendment to an amendment is under consideration, no further motion to amend is in order.

SEC. IV.—All questions, unless otherwise provided, shall be decided by the majority of members present.

SEC. V.—When a member rises to speak, he shall respectfully address his remarks to the President, confine himself to the question, and avoid personality. Should more than one member rise to speak at the same time, the President shall determine who is entitled to the floor.

SEC. VI.—When a member is called to order by the President, or any member, he shall at once take his seat, and the point shall be decided by the President, without discussion.

SEC. VII.—If any member feels aggrieved by the decision of the President, he may appeal to the Association, and the question shall be put:—"Shall the decision of the chair be sustained?"

SEC. VIII.—Upon the request of any ten members, the President shall order the yeas and nays to be taken, and recorded in the minutes.

SEC. IX.—In every Committee, except the Executive Committee, one-third of the members comprising it shall constitute a quorum, provided that not less than three shall at any time constitute such quorum.

SEC. X.—All Reports of Committees shall be presented in writing.

SEC. XI.—No alteration or amendment shall be made to these By-laws or Rules of Order without ten days' previous notice in writing, and a two-third vote of the members present at an annual meeting, or at a special meeting called for that purpose; neither can they be suspended at ordinary meetings but by a unanimous vote, and for the occasion only.

Article IV.—THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

SEC. I.—Regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held on the Tuesday preceding the regular meetings of the Association.

SEC. II.—Special Meetings may be called by the President, or any three members.

SEC. III.—Seven members shall form a quorum of the Executive Committee.

SEC. IV.—The Executive Committee may appoint such Standing or Sub-Committees as they may deem advisable.

SEC. V.—The Executive Committee may employ a paid Assistant Secretary, or such other assistance as may be necessary to carry out the objects of the Association.

Article V.—FEES.

The annual subscription shall be one dollar, payable in advance on the first of December. Any member joining after the first of October shall not be required to pay any additional fee the following year. No members in arrears shall be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Association.

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